CLAIMS

- A method for fabricating a nitride semiconductor laser device, which comprises;
- first step to form a multi-layered 5 semiconductor on a substrate, the multi-layered semiconductor containing at an n-type nitride least semiconductor layer, an active layer, and a p-type nitride semiconductor layer;
- a second step to expose the surfaces of the n
 type nitride semiconductor layer and the p-type nitride

 semiconductor layer at different heights by selectively

 etching the multi-layered semiconductor;
- layered semiconductor, including the exposed surfaces of
 the n-type nitride semiconductor layer and the p-type
 nitride semiconductor layer, with an insulating film that
 has a thickness greater than the difference in levels
 between the exposed surface of the n-type nitride
 semiconductor layer and the outermost surface of the ptype nitride semiconductor layer;
 - a fourth step to flatten the surface of the insulating film; and
- a fifth step to form an n-type electrode and a p-type electrode that are electrically connected to the n
 25 type nitride semiconductor layer and the p-type nitride

semiconductor layer, respectively, through the insulating film.

- The method for fabricating a nitride
 semiconductor laser device according to Claim 1, which further comprises;
- a sixth step, following the fifth step, to press-fit the surface of the insulating film to a submount containing a first wire and a second wire by using heat-melted solder structures and electrically connect the n-type electrode and the p-type electrode to the first wire and the second wire, respectively.
- 3. The method for fabricating a nitride semiconductor laser device according to Claim 1, wherein the insulating film contains fine-grains of a metal or a semiconductor.
- 4. A nitride semiconductor laser device, which 20 comprises:
 - a multi-layered semiconductor that is formed on a substrate and that contains at least an n-type nitride semiconductor layer, an active layer, and a p-type nitride semiconductor layer; and
- an n-type electrode and a p-type electrode that

are electrically connected to the n-type nitride semiconductor layer and the p-type nitride semiconductor layer, respectively;

characterized in that the nitride semiconductor

laser device comprises an insulating film that covers the multi-layered semiconductor;

the n-type electrode and the p-type electrode are electrically connected to the n-type nitride semiconductor layer and the p-type nitride semiconductor layer, respectively through the insulating film;

10

15

the thickness of the insulating film is greater than the difference in levels between the surface with which the n-type electrode and the n-type nitride semiconductor layer come into contact and the outermost surface of the p-type nitride semiconductor layer; and the surface of the insulating film is flat.

5. The nitride semiconductor laser device according to Claim 4, which further comprises a sub-mount 20 that has a first wire and a second wire that are electrically connected to the n-type electrode and the p-type electrode through solder structures.